

CommonRuby - Feature #13122

Special syntax for Hash#default_proc

01/11/2017 01:46 AM - woodruffw (William Woodruff)

Status:	Rejected
Priority:	Normal
Assignee:	
Target version:	
Description	
<p>The current Hash#default_proc flow usually looks something like this:</p> <pre>my_hash = { key: "value" } my_hash.default_proc = proc { h, k h[k] = "other value" }</pre>	
<p>This makes the common practice of freezing large constant hashes unwieldy. For example, this:</p> <pre>MY_HASH = { key: "value" }.freeze</pre>	
<p>needs to become</p> <pre>MY_HASH = { key: "value" }</pre> <pre>MY_HASH.default_proc = proc { h, k h[k] = "other value" }</pre> <pre>MY_HASH.freeze</pre>	
<p>if a default_proc is used.</p>	
<p>I propose a new syntax for setting the default_proc within the hash-declaration itself:</p> <pre>my_hash = { key: "value" *: proc { h, k h[k] = "other value" } }</pre>	
<p>*: as a hash-key is currently a syntax error, so I think there's space in the language for this. Of course, this should also support rocket-style:</p> <pre>my_hash = { "key" => "value" * => proc { h, k h[k] = "other value" } }</pre>	
<p>(I'm completely open to alternative syntaxes, * just comes to mind because of wildcarding).</p>	
<p>I'm happy to attempt work on this, if this feature is desired. I have experience with MRI's API, but not with writing new syntax (which I assume would go in parse.y), so I'd appreciate the help of someone who's familiar with the intricacies of parse.y.</p>	
<p>Best, William Woodruff</p>	

History

#1 - 01/11/2017 02:12 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

What about

```
MY_HASH = Hash.new {|h, k| "other value"}.update(
  key: "value",
```

```
).freeze
```

?

#2 - 01/11/2017 04:52 AM - woodruffw (William Woodruff)

Nobuyoshi Nakada wrote:

What about

```
MY_HASH = Hash.new {|h, k| "other value"}.update(  
  key: "value",  
).freeze
```

?

Ah, I forgot about that...

That definitely works, and solves the problem without a need for new syntax. Please close if you don't see the need for these changes.

Thanks!

#3 - 01/11/2017 05:06 AM - woodruffw (William Woodruff)

Realized I forgot commas in the examples:

```
my_hash = {  
  key: "value",  
  *: proc { |h, k| h[k] = "other value" },  
}
```

and

```
my_hash = {  
  "key" => "value",  
  * => proc { |h, k| h[k] = "other value" },  
}
```

#4 - 02/05/2017 11:01 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

Maybe both of elements and a block would be nice.

#5 - 03/13/2017 06:46 AM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

- Status changed from Open to Rejected

I don't think default_proc is not worth adding a new syntax.

Matz.